

ANALYSIS OF THE WORLD'S LATEST NEWS

All That Happened of General Interest Last Week Rapidly Sketched in Precise and Illuminating Fashion.

NOTE—This feature reserved, will make a valuable work of reference. SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 1909. (By Universal News Analysis.)

Vacation seekers of rest and pleasure who might have spent the week beyond the reach of newspapers would not find themselves appreciably out of touch with the larger trend of human affairs when they returned from the wilds to their accustomed occupations.

Of course the usual number of columns have been printed and a great mass of happenings of considerable interest has been reported, local news figuring more prominently. But so far as the general face of the world is considered, the reviewer finds the net result all but nil. This is a fact of considerable significance in itself. It does not imply that the great issues of national and world politics have disappeared, that the industrial armies and their captains have become idle or have sought the general strike fever or that the leaders of science and sociology have quit the chase for eternal truth. The economic struggle goes on ceaselessly and vast forces are at work, but at this season of greatest heat certain relaxation is likely to affect the mind of man and to result in a minimum of decisive events to be recorded.

Commercial and Industrial. At McKee's Rocks, near Pittsburgh, where the big plant of the Pressed Steel Car Company has been idle for over five weeks on account of the strike of the employees for better conditions and better pay, the company has made strenuous efforts to get things going, with the help of several hundred strike breakers imported from other cities, but not with much success.

The strikers have been on the alert night and day in relays, using every means in their power to prevent the approach of the breakers. Two train loads of new men were taken into the works, where lodgings are provided, but many of these men deserted when they found the conditions of their employment meant virtual imprisonment. Later in the week, when the company tried to bring in more men by water, the steamboat was fired on by a mob and compelled to retreat before the mob was dispersed by the police. Then the crew of the steamboat went on strike, for fear of being shot. Several clashes occurred in the streets between strikers and breakers. The sheriff, with the aid of men employed by the company, completed the evictions of strikers from the company houses.

Executive. After having named a large number of census supervisors, President Taft issued an order against their taking part in political activities except to vote, and directing Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel to dismiss any supervisor or enumerator who serves on any political committee, makes speeches, or solicits votes for a candidate. The work of the supervisors will begin about the middle of October, and that will give them about six months in which to get in touch with the problem before the actual count begins on April 15 next. The pay of the supervisors for the eight or ten months of their service will average \$3,000.

It is understood that the Navy Department of the government will soon advertise for bids for two aeroplanes, to form the nucleus of an aerial squadron. The specifications will require a machine which will rise from and alight on the water. It will have to be able to remain in the air for four hours, carrying two passengers, and have a speed of forty miles an hour. The two aeroplanes are to be used for scouting purposes, and will not undertake to carry weapons or ammunition. They would be attached to the scout cruisers.

To commemorate the Hudson-Fulton celebration at New York next month, Postmaster General Hitchcock has ordered the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to issue \$5,000,000 new 2-cent stamps, to be ready for sale by September 30.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson's annual report, made public Wednesday, shows that the total farm value of the crops produced in this country last year was \$7,728,000,000. This was a gain of \$20,000,000 over the total farm value of the crops for 1907 and \$3,051,000,000 above the census total for the year 1900. At the head of the crop list stands wheat, which last year was worth \$1,615,000,000. For the first time the value of cotton exceeded that of hay.

Political. The National Monetary Commission created by Congress last year, under the currency reform law, was in session in the Plaza Hotel, New York, last Monday and Tuesday, with Senator Aldrich presiding. While no formal report on its findings is expected before its next meeting in Washington in October, it was gathered from private conversations with members that the commission has become a unit in favor of the central bank plan as a result of a close examination of that plan as employed in European countries.

The visits of two Cabinet officers at the summer home of President Taft have coincided with the report that a plan is afoot for the general revision of Federal corporation laws. The original draft of the laws to prevent restraint will be entrusted to a "law commission" composed of the two Cabinet officers, together with Solicitor General Bowers, Representative Townsend, and Commerce Commissioners Knapp and Prouty. This commission will begin work soon at New York. One effect of the program is likely to be the limiting of the power of the Interstate Commerce Commission to that of a purely judicial body.

Fifteen of the so-called twenty-one wet counties of South Carolina voted on Tuesday to do away with the dispensary system in favor of straight prohibition. The dispensary was retained in Charleston.

At Des Moines on August 14 William J. Bryan for the first time gave to the press a signed statement expressing his view of the new tariff law and its Republican framers. He says that "the Aldrich bill is a consummate fraud, deliberately planned and boldly executed."

Scientific. Capt. Rowland Webster, of the Royal Geographic Society, has been commissioned by that eminent body to continue the work of Lieut. Shackleton in the antarctic regions, and to utilize a combination of airship and balloon in trying to reach the south pole. Webster is a famous globe trotter, having traveled twenty-four times around the world and made fourteen trips to Africa. While in Washington a few days ago, on his way to London, Capt. Webster said he expected the new expedition would start about one year hence.

Prof. Henri Poincaré, in a recent lecture at Paris before the Association for the Advancement of Science, announced that scientists now question one of Newton's fundamental laws of mechanics, namely, that if a certain force acts on a moving body for one second, it communicates a certain speed, and that if it acts for another second, it gives a new increase equal to the first, and so on. The critics now say that the increase in the speed during the second period is less than that given in the first, and less in the third, and so on. Hence there is a limit to the speed that can be produced, and that this limit is the speed of light, from which they argue that the mass of a material body is not constant, but increases with the body's speed. One of the rays latterly observed in connection with radium is believed to offer proof of the new theory.

Educational. The trustees of Colgate University, Hamilton, N. Y., Wednesday elected Elmer B. Bryan president to fill the vacancy caused by the death of President Merrill. Mr. Bryan has been president of Franklin College, Indiana, since 1905.

Princeton University has just become the chief beneficiary under the will of the late Cornelius Cuyler, a wealthy New York financier, who was killed recently while motoring in France. Upon the death of his widow several millions will go to Princeton, but \$100,000 is at once made available to commemorate his father, Theodore Cuyler.

Miscellaneous. At Newport, Ark., Wednesday, Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey filed suits against sixty-five fire insurance companies doing business in the State, charging trade conspiracies in violation of the anti-trust law and asking penalties aggregating \$1,000,000.

In the presence of 30,000 spectators, assembled to see the dedication of the new motor speedway at Indianapolis, Thursday, two men were killed during the 20-mile race for the Prest-O-Lite trophy of \$1,000. The victims were William A. Bourque, driver of the Knox car, and his mechanic, Harry C. Colcomb. While under high speed the car suddenly swerved from the track and plunged through the fence to destruction. At the moment the driver turned his head to look back he lost control of the racer.

BIGGEST OF ALL MACKERELS. Purchaser Refuses Ten-dollar Offer for an Eight-pounder.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 21.—Until a few days ago a mackerel that exceeded four pounds in weight was considered something remarkable, but when Capt. Rufus McKay, of the seiner Speculator, showed one he had taken in the catch, he brought to T. Wharf there was a change of opinion, and the ordinary large mackerel looked like a canner in comparison.

Capt. McKay had been seeing on the Rips and had taken some pretty big fish, many of them weighing above four pounds, but when the men came across the real big one the crew stopped work for a time to get a look at it. The fish was carefully laid in ice separate from the others, and when the Speculator's hatches were opened it was brought out and shown to the dealers.

Immediately there was a struggle to get it, and it was finally bought by Elmer Prior for P. H. Prior, 2 T wharf. The fish was placed on exhibition in the store and was viewed by hundreds. It weighs eight pounds and is twenty-nine and one-half inches from the tip of the head to the tip of the tail and nineteen inches in its largest circumference.

Mr. Prior was made an offer of \$10 for the fish by a Beverly dealer, who wanted to present it to President Taft, but he refused the offer, as he intends to have it mounted.

STRIKES PAY DIRT. Truck Gardener Sells Patch for \$25,000 to Syndicate.

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 21.—Joseph Eakin, a pioneer market gardener of Idaho, and former sheriff of Nez Perce County, living in the Upper Salmon River country, and his wife, have come into their own and will be able to pass the rest of their days in peace and comfort. Eakin has just sold his truck patch of fifteen acres to a syndicate of Eastern capitalists for \$25,000, and placing mining operations for gold will be carried on there in the future.

Eakin discovered the yellow dust in his garden on the river bank some time ago, but was not able to develop the property owing to the great expense of installing the necessary machinery. The syndicate has sunk several shafts to bedrock and is preparing to install hydraulic apparatus. The property is in one of the most isolated parts of the upper country, but there is reason to believe that with the development of the mine there will be much activity in the future.

Until a short time ago Mrs. Eakin did not see the face of a white woman but there is reason to believe that with the development of the mine there will be much activity in the future.

THE NICKEL NECESSARY COIN. Without It Many Small Articles Would Jump in Price.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel. If the government should discontinue the coinage of nickels and call in those in circulation it would make it necessary to revolutionize the present car fare system, the telephone pay system, and would make changes in the price of practically every small article.

The government could better afford to quit coining most any other coin than the nickel, according to Henry Kloes, cashier of the First National Bank. In the opinion of Mr. Kloes there are comparatively more nickels coined than any other piece, and the government could no more do away with them than it could with dollar bills.

There are hundreds of thousands of five cent pieces lost every year, he says, and being responsible for the unusually large coinage of this particular piece.

It has been said that if it were not for the street cars the nickel as a coin would soon become extinct. This is not so, says Mr. Kloes. The department stores take in nearly as many nickels during a day as the street car companies.

If the nickel were abolished a new system of car fare would have to be adopted. Nickel shoe shining parlors would be put being abolished. They depend on many, but if every machine was wiped out the effect would be hardly noticeable. There is no danger that Uncle Sam will quit coining nickels.

Beer, soda water, ice cream, and other articles would immediately jump in price, and the cost of living would be materially increased.

"There has practically been nothing done to diminish the need of the nickel," said Mr. Kloes, "except that slot machines are being abolished. They depend on many, but if every machine was wiped out the effect would be hardly noticeable. There is no danger that Uncle Sam will quit coining nickels."

"In 1908 20,000 pounds of clean cotton were exported, while a conservative estimate gives 300,000 pounds for the crop of 1909. For what has already been shipped this year they have received 13 cents per pound in the English market, with the assurance that a better price will be paid for the next lot if a fairly large shipment is made. There are large areas of land in all parts of the republic which, although not suited to the cultivation of cacao or any of the strictly tropical crops, seem to be thoroughly adapted to the raising of cotton."

DES MOINES PLAN AFTER ONE YEAR. Enough Improvement to Show It Is a Success.

City in Capable Hands Since New Regime Took Hold—A Surplus Instead of the Usual Deficit—Comparisons in the Various Departments—Better Police Service.

Des Moines, Aug. 21.—The capital of Iowa is at present conducting a most interesting experiment in local self-government. For more than a year past her municipal affairs have been administered under a new charter, and results indicate that it is a vast improvement over the old system of inefficiency and "graft."

Two years ago, the younger business men set out to build a greater Des Moines. These men, finding that an inefficient and corrupt city government was greatly retarding the growth of the city and the development of its commercial interests, conceived the idea of working out a charter especially adapted to administer the public affairs of a commercial center. The introduction of modern business methods into the administration of public affairs was their first desire, but they likewise sought to provide increased opportunities for an effective expression of popular will.

The responsibility of administering the public affairs of the city is placed upon a small governing board of five men elected at large, without regard to wards, sectional lines, or party politics. To this governing board is given large and important powers, including authority to pass ordinances, to determine the duties and fix the salaries of city employees, to create or discontinue offices, remove subordinates, and transfer employees from one office to another; in fact, they have all the authority, powers, and duties formerly had by the various boards, committees, and officials of the old system.

To secure simplicity, the work of the city has been divided into five departments, and to each of these departments is assigned that member of the board best fitted for the place, and he is made responsible for all matters coming within his jurisdiction. Thus is secured one of the principal features of the plan—centralization of power with a definite responsibility.

Other features of the plan are: provision for making the office attractive to the best men of the community; removal of ward lines; nonpartisan primary and election; protection of the right of franchise; effective civil service; publicity in all departments; right of people to vote on all public franchises; and several other democratic features, including the initiative, referendum, and recall. These various features, combined into a single, practical system, have appealed to many as making a remarkably strong scheme of government, and one in which the rights of the people are fully protected.

The wisdom of centralizing this power in the governing board might be doubted, were it not for the various provisions of the plan inserted for the purpose of preventing abuse of this power. The theory upon which the charter was framed was that greater effort should be put forth in securing capable and honest men as officials, and that then these officials should be left free and unhampered in their work of dispatching the city's business so long as they per-

GOVERNED BY TRADE BOARD. City in Capable Hands Since New Regime Took Hold—A Surplus Instead of the Usual Deficit—Comparisons in the Various Departments—Better Police Service.

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BURNS MILLION A DAY. Government Destroys Worn-out Money in Quantity.

INTERESTING CAREER OF A GOTHAM BROKER.

Donald Persch, the young and successful New York broker, who was arrested on a \$50,000 bail for his connection with the vanishing bonds owned by F. Augustus Helms, and as illustrated chronicle of events which led up to his arrest.